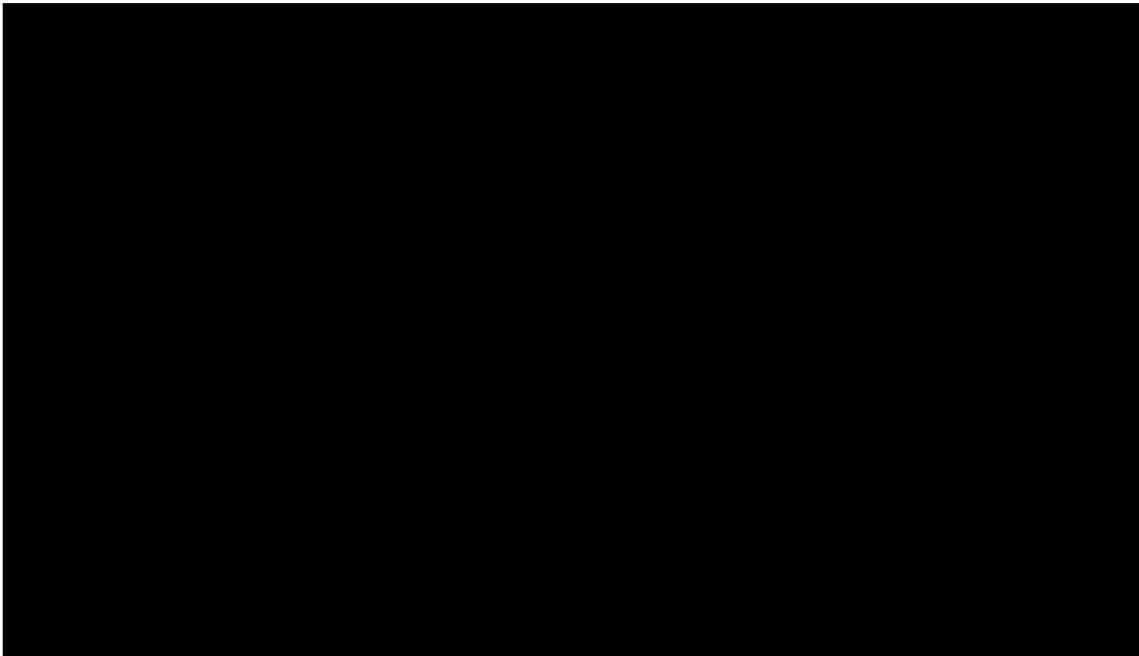


Feb 9 / Michael Vandergrift - Update discussion 1:00-1:30PM

February 9, 2022 9:35 AM



1. Ambassador Bridge

Context:

- **Passenger vehicles** were able to cross into the U.S. on Tues, but no traffic moved into Canada.
 - Windsor Police announced that traffic can pass through to Ambassador Bridge via a second entrance on Tuesday morning, as protesters remain.
- **Commercial vehicles** are being redirected to the Blue Water Bridge in Sarnia
 - Could cost companies an additional \$500 and add 3 or 4 hours of transport time
 - Some companies have put a hold on deliveries instead of taking on extra costs or delay
 - Ontario Trucking Association noted that Sarnia's Blue Water Bridge where trucks are diverting have also seen protests
- Economic impact of the Ambassador Bridge **could far outstrip the impacts of other blockades:**
 - One-quarter of Canada's trade with the U.S. crosses at that land border
 - Critical to industries such as the auto sector
 - About 8,000 trucks cross on a typical day.
 - 70 Canadian and U.S. business groups called for an immediate clearing of the blockades and for the bridge to be reopened.

Asks of the Ontario Government

- **From City of Windsor**
 - Mayor Drew Dilkens said that the city needs 100 more officers, but **both provincial and federal governments said they haven't received a formal request.**

Ontario Position:

- Issue is primarily policing, as acknowledged by federal government:
 - Minister Blair: "It is not the role of any government to direct law enforcement operations. It is the responsibility of the police of jurisdiction to maintain public order."

2. Ottawa:

Context

- Estimate that 500 trucks and vehicles remain in the 'red zone' or downtown core.
 - Police have made 22 arrests, issued more than 1300 tickets and have 79 ongoing criminal investigations (as of Tuesday afternoon).

Asks of the Ontario Government

A) City of Ottawa:

- **More penalties** - asked Chief Justice of Ontario to increase the value of fines being issued to protesters under the *Provincial Offences Act*.
 - Fines could increase from \$100 to \$1,000 per offense for idling, the noise bylaw fine from \$490 to \$1000 and fines for encumbering a highway from \$350 to \$1000.
 - **A fines increase would have to be approved by the Ontario Court of Justice.**
 - According to Mayor Watson, Ottawa's chief bylaw officer, Roger Chapman, has confirmed that the Chief Justice of Ontario is supportive of the request and is committed to enacting the higher fines as soon as possible.
 - Monday, an Ontario superior court justice granted a 10-day injunction ordering truckers demonstrating in down Ottawa to stop honking.
- **More accountability** - City councilors voted on Monday to ask the province to draw up legislation that would grant them the ability **to charge the protesters for the costs of the demonstration**.
 - To proclaim into force Schedule 1 of the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019*.
 - Part 3, Section 18.1: "A person who causes a temporary increase in the cost of providing adequate and effective policing in an area by organizing an event, such as a parade or festival, engaging in an activity that involves the closure of a highway, engaging in a commercial enterprise or engaging in any other prescribed activity, may be charged for the cost of that temporary increase."
 - Police estimate as high as \$2.2 million per day.
 - **Premier would have to approve the cost recouping idea.**
- **More police** - Police Chief Peter Soly stated he needs 1,800 more police and civilian workers, almost matching the current 2,100 deployed
 - 1,000 regular officers, 600 public order officers, 100 investigative officers, 100 civilian staff, and "all supporting resources", including cyber investigative capacity, digital and social media forensics and financial forensics.
 - More than 275 RCMP officers and 100 OPP officers have been made available to City of Ottawa since Sunday (as of Monday)
 - **Solicitor General Jones has received the request for extra police and the request has been shared with the Commissioner of the OPP**, who will continue to work with Ottawa Police.
- **More support for businesses**
 - Business organizations in Ottawa are calling out for monetary support due to forced shutdowns during the protests (75% have lost revenue; 48% have closed)
 - City is looking into providing support, working with other levels of government;
 - MOF spokesperson noted on Sunday that the Province has been providing targeted relief for businesses, but **did not comment on specific compensation for businesses affected by the protests.**

B) Federal Government:

- Transport Minister Alghabara suggested Ontario government should suspend the commercial licenses of truckers involved in the protests and insurance for the owners of the equipment blockading streets.
 - He will be speaking with provincial counterparts to discuss enacting existing regulatory powers.
 - Under the **Highway Traffic Act** (section 47), the government can cancel driver's licences, plates and operator certificates for misconduct, ignoring laws or any other sufficient reason.
 - NDP leader Andrea Horwath has also called on the Premier regarding this request.

C) Additional Options:

- Under the **Ontario Emergency Management and Civil Protections Act**, the

province can "regulate or prohibit travel or movement to, from or within any specified area" and to restore "necessary facilities" and appropriate, destroy or remove "property".

- E.g. it could stop people who cannot prove they live or work in the 'red zone' from walking in and out of the area and remove trucks.

- **Asks of the Federal Government:**

- **City of Ottawa:**

- **More responsibility** - To assume responsibility for public safety in the parliamentary precinct, freeing up Ottawa officers to return to protect residential neighborhoods.
 - **More police** - see request to Ontario above

Additional Background:

Municipal Act, 2001

It is one of the most significant provincial statutes governing Ontario's municipalities is the Municipal Act, 2001. The Act gives a municipality flexibility to deal with local circumstances and to react quickly to local economic, environmental or social changes. An up-to-date, consolidated version of the Act is maintained on the provincial e-laws website.

Key City of Ottawa motions coming out of February 7th Special meeting:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor, supported by City Council, formally and publicly call on both the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to step in and immediately provide all necessary financial and logistical supports required to bring this occupation to a peaceful end and allow the City of Ottawa to return to normal.

From <<https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/cache/2/i4obb10q2eweuditprtwe122/859402092022100528200.htm>>

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor, with the support of City Council, make a formal request to both the Provincial and Federal Governments for funding supports specifically focused on supporting Ottawa businesses and their employees impacted by the occupation.

From <<https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/cache/2/i4obb10q2eweuditprtwe122/859402092022100528200.htm>>

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor, with the support of City Council, make a formal request to both the Provincial and Federal Governments for funding specifically focused on supporting community social support agencies impacted by the occupation.

From <<https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/cache/2/i4obb10q2eweuditprtwe122/859402092022100528200.htm>>

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request the Mayor write to the Ontario Premier to proclaim in force Schedule 1 of the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019* to allow the Ottawa Police Service Board and the Solicitor General of Ontario to charge those persons responsible for causing a temporary increase in the cost of providing adequate and effective policing in the City of Ottawa, those increased costs.

From <<https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/cache/2/i4obb10q2eweuditprtwe122/859402092022100528200.htm>>

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Ottawa formally petition the Government of Canada to assume responsibility for public safety and security within the Parliamentary Precinct and to commit to an immediate and significant increased level of support (officers, resources, materials and equipment) to the Ottawa Police, as the police force of jurisdiction, in the adjoining areas, subject to the

resolution of any jurisdictional discussions between the Ottawa Police Service and the RCMP.

From <<https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/cache/2/40bb10q2eweuditprtwe122/859402092022100528200.htm>>

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff in By-law and Regulatory Services consider making an application for set fine increases for offences as set out in the above-mentioned by-laws for more effective deterrence at \$1,000 per offence, as provided for under the *Provincial Offences Act*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these set fines remain in place during the declared State of Emergency.

From <<https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/cache/2/40bb10q2eweuditprtwe122/859402092022100528200.htm>>

Background Materials:

1. Mayor Watson's letter to PM and Minister Mendocino



Mayor's
Letter-to-...

2. Location in Windsor - protest cars and trucks are lining **Windsor's Huron Church Road**, the main road connecting Highway 401 to the bridge. Police are asking people to avoid the area, which has been clogged since Monday afternoon.

From <<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/ambassador-bridge-protest-1.6343344>>

